Appln. No.: 09/936,638

Reply to Office Action of November 25, 2003

Attorney Docket No. 10543-032

I. <u>Listing of Claims</u>:

1. (Previously Presented): A method for determining parameters for the

viscosity of a brake fluid as it is affected by temperature of a vehicle brake circuit for

a predetermined pressure build-up within time limits comprising the steps of

detecting in at least one defined section of said brake circuit a pressure in said

section and measuring at least one of a magnitude of said pressure or a time which

is required to build up said pressure, and relating said magnitude of said pressure or

said time to said viscosity.

2. (Previously Presented): A method as claimed in claim 1, further comprising

that the time which is required to build-up said pressure is determined by way of

switching valves of said brake circuit which initiate a pressure build-up.

3. (Previously Presented): A method as claimed in claim 1, wherein the

maximum of said magnitude of said pressure is determined.

4. (Previously Presented): A method as claimed in claim 1, wherein said

magnitude of said pressure is determined as a function of time.

5. (Previously Presented): A method as claimed in claim 1, wherein said at

least one of said magnitude or time of said pressure is determined after activation of

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a pump of said brake circuit delivering the brake fluid or after opening of a valve of

said brake circuit.

6. (Currently Amended): A method for controlling the driving stability of a

vehicle, wherein the input quantities which may include inputs of steering angle and

vehicle reference speed which are substantially defined by a roadway driving

condition are converted into the nominal value of a yaw rate quantity due to a vehicle

model fixed by operands and said quantities are compared with the actual value of

the yaw rate quantity of said vehicle measured by means of sensors, wherein the

difference value found is sent to a control law in which a torque quantity is calculated

which serves to fix pressure quantities that generate an additional yaw torque by way

of wheel brakes of the vehicle to bring the measured yaw rate quantity in conformity

with the calculated yaw rate quantity, comprising the steps of:

comparing the pressure quantities with pressure quantities determined in a

pressure model;

determining the viscosity of brake fluid of a brake circuit of said vehicle by

detecting in at least one defined section of said brake circuit a pressure in said

section and measuring at least one of a magnitude of said pressure or a time which

is required to build up said pressure; and

evaluating or modifying the pressure quantities determined in the pressure

model as a function of the viscosity of the braking fluid; and.

determining the viscosity of brake fluid of a brake circuit of said vehicle by

detecting in at least one defined section of said brake circuit a pressure in said

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section and measuring at least one of a magnitude of said pressure or a time which

is required to build up said pressure.

7. (Previously Presented): A method as claimed in claim 6, wherein the

modified or evaluated pressure quantities are converted into valve actuation signals,

and brake valves of the wheel brakes of said vehicle are actuated in response to the

said signals.

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